financial sector. We have gained considerable experience in the working of the banking sector. The said experience will be applied to the restructuring of the insurance industry, but at the same time, public sector companies like LIC, GIC, etc. will be strengthened".

Subsequently, in July 1996, it was stated in the Budget speech that :

> "An interim, non-statutory Insurance Regulatory Authority was set up in January, 1996. I now propose to introduce a Bill to make it a statutory body and to empower it suitably. When I return to the subject of insurance in the next Budget, I shall address some of the policy parameters outlined in the CMP, including the sequence of steps for the restructuring of the insurance industry".

The Government is currently processing a Bill for giving statutory basis to the Insurance Regulatory Authority set up in January, 1996. Other measures for reform of the insurance sector are being examined in consultation with the Insurance Regulatory Authority.

Setting up of PSUs

2115. SHRI SOUMYA RANJAN : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set up industries in Public Sector Undertakings in the country particularly in Orissa; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) and (b). At present there is no proposal to set up industries in public sector undertakings in the country including Orissa.

Linking of Human Rights and Child Labour with Trade Agreements under W.T.O.

2116. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether some developed countries are seeking to link human rights and child labour with trade agreements under World Trade Organisation;

(b) if so, the details of such countries;

(c) whether the Government have taken up this issue with the developing countries; and

(d) if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Some developed countries like USA and Norway have proposed that the World Trade Organisation (WTO) discuss the relationship between trade and core labour standards in the WTO.

(c) and (d). Yes, Sir. The matter was discussed with other developing countries in the Preparatory Meeting to the Singapore Ministerial Meeting held in New Delhi in September 1996. In addition, India is continously coordinating her position with other like minded countries in opposing such a linkage. The outcome on this issue will be decided at the WTO Singapore Ministerial Conference to be held from December 9-13, 1996.

Rehabilitation of families affected due to Mining Operation

2117. SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether 49 mouzas in West Bengal have been declared unsafe and unstable for habitation by the Director General of Mines Safety due to coal mining operation;

(b) if so, the total number of families affected;

(c) the steps taken for the shifting and rehabilitation of the people of those mouzas; and

(d) the funds sanctioned and allocated for rehabilitation of the affected families?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir. An Apex Monitoring Committee consisting of representatives of the coal company, District Administration, Director General of Mines Safety, Central Mining Research Institute and public figures (MLAs, MPs) was constituted to examine 49 unstable localities of Raniganj Coalfield. This Committee opined that 38 localities covering an area of 11.8 sq. kms. are unsafe.

(b) As per assessment made by Central Mine Planning and Design Institute Limited in 1992, a total of 24468 houses in the 49 unstable localities are affected.

(c) and (d). Instead of shifting and rehabilitation of the people of 49 unstable localities. Eastern Coalfields Limited (ECL) have taken steps for stabilisation of the old underground workings. As a step towards this direction, the innovative technology of hydro-pneumatic sand stowing is being given field trial in two localities. In order to establish this technology through experience gained over a wider area, two more localities have been taken up for this purpose.

Projects under Eastern Coalfield Limited

2118. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the details of new projects under Eastern Coalfields Ltd. on which work has been started recently;